

Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:47 AM
To:
Subject: RE: [External] Docket #2018-319-E

Dear Ms. Laura Godfrey,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116872>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Becky Latimer
 Clerks Office/Administrative Coordinator

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
 803-896-5100

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From: Laura Godfrey
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 3:18 PM
To: PSC_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>
Subject: [External] Docket #2018-319-E

Mr. Chairman and commissioners,

My name is Laura Godfrey. I live at 316 Majesty Ct, Greenville, SC 29615. I was speaker number 81 on your list for last night's hearing in Greenville and I am submitting my remarks in writing.

I am a Duke Energy rate payer. I am a 33 year professional in the electric lighting industry. I am also a member or affiliate of several community welfare and conservation organizations including the United Methodist Church, Conservation Voters of South Carolina, Upstate Forever, Sierra Club and others.

I have chosen to live in a very efficient home with good insulation, newer thermal windows, LED bulbs and a Nest programmable thermostat I control with my phone. Duke Energy tells me every month that I am "among the most efficient homes in the area and the envy of my neighbors." This rate hike will disproportionately affect low usage customers like me. Unlike many who testified last night, I won't miss any meals or medications if my electric bill goes up.

I am speaking out opposed to the Duke Energy proposal because the structure of the rate hike is wrong in its principal and policy.

First, as Dr. Arden said, the proposed increase is regressive. The most vulnerable in our society have the least control over their energy usage. They also have the least control over their income to try and make up for the increased bill. Duke rate payers include renters with little control over the efficiency of the home they live in. Rate payers are fixed income retirees, disabled persons and minimum-wage earning persons. As a society we provide some safety net, but benefit payments will not increase to cover the need these people face should the rate increase pass.

Secondly, it dis-incentivizes energy savings. We have already adopted policy at all levels of government identifying energy-savings as a positive way to improve GNP and reduce negative effects on our environment. We provide varied tax incentives and programs such as Energy Star to steer consumers to more energy efficient products. We should not diverge from that policy by increasing the fixed percentage of our electric bill thereby making it harder for consumers to move the meter.

I work in an industry where innovation in energy savings drives business. We design and manufacture increasingly efficient devices and customers buy them because the projected energy savings repays the cost of the product and the installation. This is true also of manufacturers and installers of other energy saving building products such as windows, doors, insulation, HVAC equipment and controls, high efficiency water heaters and products not tied to construction such as solar power generation systems

Energy savings is everyone's business but it is an industry too.

Perhaps Duke Energy could better serve their shareholders by diversifying into cleaner energy rather than fighting it.

Thank you for your time,

Laura Godfrey

Greenville, SC 29615